



CITY OF ABSECON
Municipal Complex
500 Mill Road
Absecon, New Jersey 08201

Carie A. Crone, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Phone (609) 641-0663x101
Fax (609) 645-5098

CITY COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 7, 2019

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Council President Bennett at 7:00 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

INVOCATION – Pastor Bill Warner, Director of Men's Ministry, AC Rescue Mission

ROLL CALL

Present: Cavileer, Howell; Light, Phillips, Seher, Bennett

Absent: Cain

Also present: Mayor Horton, Attorney Fred Scerni, Jessica Thompson, and Carie Crone

STATEMENT OF THE SUNSHINE LAW

NOTIFICATION THAT THIS MEETING IS ELECTRONICALLY RECORDED – Keith Bennett

PRESENTATION – Halloween Decorating Contest Winners

Caleb – this was the 4th annual contest. 14 homes were nominated and awards went to: Judge Choice #1 award went to Connie Havens; Judge Choice Award #2 – Ms. Gail Dunkle and family; 3rd – The Kasian Family; 2nd - Andrew Southrey and Lacey Carlson; 1st – the Randik family

REGULAR MEETING

2019 ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

- 12** Amending the Code of the City of Absecon to add a new Chapter to prohibit short term (30 days or less) Residential Rentals and repealing all Ordinances heretofore adopted, the provisions of which are inconsistent herewith.

Keith – asked that a motion to table this ordinance be made to be able set up a committee to research this more.

Motion made by Councilman Seher – second – Councilman Phillips

Motion for second reading – Councilman Light – second – Councilwoman Cain
ROLL CALL: Cavileer, yes; Howell, yes; Light, yes; Phillips, yes; Seher, yes; Bennett, yes
Motion to open to the public – Councilman Light – second – Councilman Cavileer
All were in flavor.
Motion to close public – Councilman Seher – second – Councilwoman Howell
All were in flavor.

Bruce Shapiro, NJ Realtors, Trenton, NJ – he knows there are reasons why you would want to ban this type of use, but he believes there are other alternatives than doing that. There are ways of regulating this and one way would be a three strike policy if the police or code enforcement gets complaints.

Jeanine Wescoat – 116 Kesler Lane – she believes this would remove property rights is an incorrect way to do this. She would work on any committee to set up guidelines and there is no monetary gain for her in this. We are a shore town and have many foreclosures and this is a way to help residents to pay their bills.

Tom DiGiacinto - 907 Blenheim Ave. – he purchased 6 acres on Shore Road and rehabbed it and intend to live in it in 2-3 years. In the meantime, he wanted to short term rentals to pay the bills in order to keep it. He believes regulations are fine, but doesn't like the blanket ban. He volunteered as well to be on a committee if needed. He does this in the Poconos with another property he owns.

Rich Derosé - 43 Natalie Terrace – he moved from North Jersey and he loves Absecon. He feels bringing young people to the town is a good idea. His house is 100 yards from an Air BNB and he thanked the owner for cleaning up the property. It helped the neighborhood and hopefully it will be kept that way. Neighbors have not complained about anything.

Marge Wilson - 410 S. Shore Road – she has lived in this home since 2001 and was at another home in Absecon then Linwood and then came back. We are in the Bed and Breakfast overlay zone and was curious how this would impact them. She was told that this wouldn't affect them.

Lori Mancinelli - 11 Ruth Court – likes the idea of the Air BnBs

Bethany Derosé – 43 Natalie Terrace – she thanked everyone for tabling this and taking time to look into it and she volunteered as well to see how it could be done

Councilman Seher – he had a great experience at an Air BnB in Michigan. The consequences not allowing people do some of this can be worse for the town. The committee can talk about how to pass an ordinance. His place was a single family residence that was subdivided into three separate apartments, so it's one thing to rent a single family home and control the number of people, but when you get into dividing them, it's a complex issues. He feels it could be resolved.

Councilman Light – we take our residents seriously and want to respect them. He grew up in Brigantine and he had to grow up with renters in the summer. We need positive growth for our community, but there could be a happy medium maybe.

Motion to close public portion – Councilman Seher – second – Councilman Cavileer
All were in favor of tabling this ordinance. Keith will set up a committee and thanked all those who volunteers.

14 Amending the Code of the City of Absecon, Chapter 300 – Solid Waste and Chapter 305 – Stormwater Management.

Motion for second reading – Councilman Light – second – Councilman Cavileer

ROLL CALL: Cavileer, yes; Howell, yes; Light, yes; Phillips, yes; Seher, yes; Bennett, yes

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Light

All were in favor.

Motion to close public – Councilman Light – second – Councilman Phillips

All were in favor.

Motion for final reading and adoption – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Light

ROLL CALL: Cavileer, yes; Howell, yes; Light, yes; Phillips, yes; Seher, yes; Bennett, yes

2019 RESOLUTIONS

- 144** Requesting the State of New Jersey to provide additional funding for dredging projects.

Kim – explained if we pass this that hopefully legislation will put more money into this program

- 145** Accepting a Volunteer Firefighter into the Absecon City Fire Department.

Frank – Patrick Spina is his name and the department seems to be getting more young guys

- 146** Authorizing a refund of an overpayment of taxes on the property located at 468 N. Shore Road (Block 93, Lot 19).

- 147** Authorizing a refund of an overpayment of taxes on the property located at 27 B Oyster Bay (Block 289, Lot 1, C027B).

- 148** Authorizing the Tax Collector to cancel taxes for the 1st and 2nd Quarter of 2020 on the property located at 120 Pitney Road (Block 157, Lot 21).

- 149** Authorizing Remington & Vernick, City Engineers to administer the construction management, construction engineering and additional design for the Fire Department facility.

PUBLIC PORTION (Agenda items only)

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Light – second – Councilman Cavileer

All were in favor.

Motion to close public – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilwoman Howell

All were in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolutions 144 to 149 were read again for approval.

Motion to approve consent agenda – Councilman Light - second – Councilman Cavileer

ROLL CALL: Cavileer, yes; Howell, yes; Light, yes; Phillips, yes; Seher, yes; Bennett, yes

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST - \$1,530,971.57

Motion to accept the bill list – Councilman Light – second – Councilman Cavileer

ROLL CALL: Cavileer, yes; Howell, yes; Light, yes; Phillips, yes; Seher, yes; Bennett, yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes 10/17/19

Closed Session Minutes 10/17/2019

Special Meeting Minutes – 10/24/19

Motion to approve – Councilman Light – second – Councilman Cavileer

ROLL CALL: Cavileer, yes; Howell, yes; Light, yes; Phillips, abstain 10/17 and yes 10/24; Seher, yes; Bennett, yes 10/17 both and abstain on 10/24

REPORTS

Jessica – reminded everyone that leaf pick up has begun and it will continue till the end of the year. RFP's for the professionals will be posted on the website next week.

Eddie – we have tentatively scheduled a ground breaking for the firehouse on Nov. 15 at 4:00 p.m. The preconstruction meeting will be 2:00 p.m. on Nov. 12th. Fencing has gone up at the project on the WHP and they should be starting soon. The road program and concrete work on Bayview Drive is going on now and they will be bouncing back and forth to Pitney Road for that concrete work. The paving crew is coming in a couple of weeks.

Discussion regarding repairs in the area of Lavender Lane, Spring Lane and DelMar was held. The city has to look at this on a case by case issue as to who has to fix it.

Steve – asked about the existing pole with site lighting on it and if it could be used during construction possibly.

Eddie – met with Lt. Adams regarding the stop signs and markings and striping as part of Highland Blvd. and the 4 way stop. The generator is arriving on Tuesday and it should be installed very soon.

Mayor – our police department participated in the Tour de Lights and they ran the first haunted hallway the night of trunk or treat. Proceeds benefit the Shop with the Cops program. It's no shave November so officers won't have to shave if they pay \$25. All proceeds for this too goes to Shop with Cops. She read a letter she received from Chris Brown regarding the train service and transit villages and he supported us in our application to become a transit village. The train display will be set up some time after Thanksgiving and will be available Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Keith – this Sunday at the Black Cat there's a fundraiser for the Blue Devils. He congratulated everyone on the election and even those who ran and wanted to get involved.

Chris – he congratulated Kim and Caleb and Keith and Don. It was a good clean campaign. He thanked all the residents who supported him and we all have to support this council and we want to respect Absecon's past and move Absecon forward. He thanked Jessica, Carie and all the city employees for their support and hard work. Absecon is blessed to have a government run so well.

Betty – announced upcoming events since Sandy was absent. Some of them were the Seton Christmas Bazaar, Lions Club comedy night; CBD store grand opening; Absecon's Art Alliance and the Legion Blood Drive tomorrow.

Frank – he spoke to the Police Chief today and he couldn't make it tonight, but he asked him to read a letter to everyone. He is retiring March 1st and asked to promote the next Sergeant. The current list expires December 14, 2019. This move would save time by not having to give another exam which is about another 4 month process and saves money on another exam. It cost \$4,000 last night and is based on the number of candidates taking it. If they take a course too, it costs about \$2,000. Anyone can contact him with any questions.

Steve – acknowledged the loss of Don Adams who passed away. He was a pillar of the community; a football coach and mentor. He inspired many children and will be missed greatly. He received a phone call regarding Bill Walsh who is struggling along with ALS. This keeps us humble when we see what people have to go through.

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Phillips - second – Councilman Cavileer
All were in favor.

Motion to close public portion – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Cavileer
All were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn – Councilman Seher – second – Councilman Phillips
All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 11-21-19